



PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Hiroko SATOH *et al*

Serial No. 09/266,813

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filed: March 12, 1999

Examiner: Shubo Zhou

For: (AS AMENDED) METHOD FOR PREDICTING REACTION CHARACTERISTICS OF MOLECULES

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 111Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action (Paper No. 20) of February 28, 2003, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

Cancel claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 1, 4 and 5, and add claim 21, as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A molecular reaction characteristic predicting method for predicting a reaction characteristic of a molecule, said method comprising the steps of:

setting a molecule surrounding surface surrounding the molecule so as to be reflected in a spatial dimension of the molecule, and assuming that a space surrounded by said molecule surrounding surface is a molecule surrounding space;

dividing said molecule surrounding space into a plurality of component spaces, by which a reaction characteristic of said molecule is characterized, in accordance with a predetermined space dividing procedure, and assuming that contour surfaces surrounding said component spaces are component surrounding surfaces, said molecule surrounding space being divided so [as] that each component space of the plurality of component spaces includes therein each one atom composing the molecule;

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